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Message Text

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43
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 OPIC-03 IO-10 AF-06

/095 W
---------- 008049
R 041725Z NOV 75
FM AMCONSUL TANGIER
TO AMEMBASSY RABAT
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3232
USMISSION USUN
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

C O N F I D E N T I A L TANGIER 0496

E.O. 11652 GDS
TAGS: PBOR PFOR SS SP MO
SUBJECT: SPANISH SAHARA -- MARCHE VERTE

REF: CASABLANCA'S 0839

1. GROWING DISENCHANTMENT IN CASABLANCA BUSINESS COMMUNITY (REPORTED REFTEL) DOES NOT SEEM TO HAVE HIT TANGIER AS YET. LOCAL BUSINESSES ARE BEING ASKED FOR CONTRIBUTIONS BOTH FROM THEMSELVES AND THEIR EMPLOYEES BUT I HAVE THE IMPRESSION GOM DEMANDS HERE HAVE NOT BEEN MADE QUITE AS EXPLICIT AS THEY SEEM TO HAVE BEEN IN CASABLANCA. ALSO THERE APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN NO LEVIES ON THE STOCKS OF LOCAL BUSINESSES. TANGIER'S GREATER DISTANCE FROM THE ACTION PERHAPS ACCOUNTS FOR THEIR IMMUNITY THUS FAR FROM THE RAIDS ON STORES DESCRIBED REFTEL. LOCAL TEACHERS, OFFICIALS AND OTHER EMPLOYEES HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT A CONTRIBUTION WILL BE EXPECTED FROM THEM TOWARD THE COST OF THE MARCHE VERTE AND THAT IT WILL BE DEDUCTED FROM THEIR SALARY. NO AMMOUNT HAS BEEN MENTIONED AND GOVERN-
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MENT EMPLOYEES UNDER IMPRESSION THEIR CONTRIBUTION WILL BE

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BUT A SMALL PERCENTAGE OF ONE MONTH'S SALARY ONLY. ALL IN ALL GOM EFFORTS TO OBTAIN FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE MARCHE VERTE HAVE NOT CREATED ANY WAVES ON THE LOCAL SCENE.

2. FOOD SHORTAGES REPORTED WEEK AGO HAVE BEEN OVERCOME AND LOCAL MARKETS ARE NOW ADEQUATELY SUPPLIED. PRICES HAVE BEGUN TO GO DOWN THOUGH THEY HAVE NOT YET RETURNED TO NORMAL. GOODS ARE BEGINNING TO PILE UP IN THE WAREHOUSES AT THE PORT DUE TO LACK OF TRANSPORT TO MOVE THEM TO THEIR DESTINATION; HOWEVER,THERE HAVE BEEN NO DELAYS THUS FAR IN UNLOADING SHIPS IN TANGIER. BUS SERVICES TO RABAT AND OTHER CITIES HAVE RESUMED AFTER HAVING BEEN ALMOST TOTALLY DISRUPTED LAST WEEK. LIFE IN TANGIER ON THE WHOLE HAS RETURNED TO NORMAL SINCE THE FRENZIED EXCITEMENT THAT ACCOMPANIED THE DEPARTURE OF THE VOLUNTEERS EARLY LAST WEEK. LOCAL OPTIMISM FOR THE SUCCESS OF THE MARCHE VERTE DOES NOT SEEM TO HAVE DIMINISHED. EASTMAN

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